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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

December 13, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF, SPECIAL SECURITY CENTER

SUBJECT: BYEMAN Cover Sheets

In a recent memorandum to members of the DCI Security Committee I described a procedure for handling BYEMAN information that is detrimental to the security of this sensitive material and requested each SECOM member to take the necessary action within his organization to correct it. The specific procedure I am referring to is the use of the first letter(s) or digraph(s)/trigraph(s) of BYEMAN project indicator words on a BYEMAN cover sheet while continuing to treat the cover sheet as unclassified. These cover sheets appear in non-BYEMAN and even non-SCI areas supposedly serving as sufficient protection for the contents of the document while in the possession of a BYEMAN briefed individual. The effect of this procedure is to expose the project compartmentation of the BYEMAN system to personnel who do not have BYEMAN access or a need-to-know. The open display of the filled-in cover sheets in non-BYEMAN areas also associates organizations, offices, and individuals with specific projects, thereby providing insight, in many cases, into the covert mission of the project through the type of involvement or support provided by that organization, office, or individual.

To correct this situation, I have instructed the SECOM principals not to use BYEMAN project indicator abbreviations (i.e., first letter, digraph, or trigraph) on BYEMAN cover sheets. The cover sheet will now serve only as a protective device to alert individuals to the compartmentation of the document within the BYEMAN system. Project/access compartmentation requirements will be obtained from the title page or first page of the document.

While I do not believe it necessary to discontinue use of existing stocks of cover sheets, I request that the "specific activity" lines be deleted from all future printings of BYEMAN cover sheets. This will necessitate a change in wording of the accompanying notice. May I suggest "Access to this document will be restricted to individuals approved for the specific activities listed on the cover, title page, or first page of this document."

The changes described above, combined with judicious monitoring of the Community's compliance with the new policy, should correct this poor security practice.

NRO review(s) completed.

Special Assistant for

25X1

NRO



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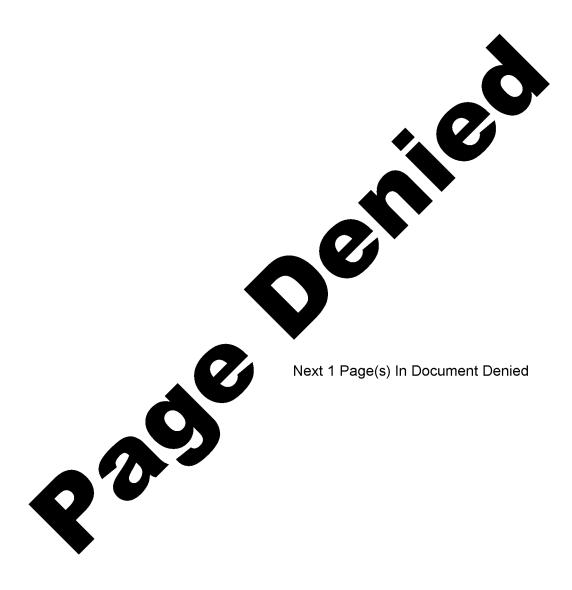
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